

**SOPHIE'S SACRIFICE TO FIND A TRUE LOVE REFLECTED IN
LETTER'S TO JULIET MOVIE (2010):**

AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCOLOGICAL APPROACH



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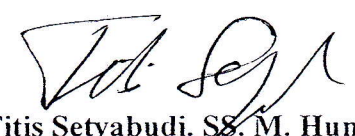
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**SOPHIE’S SACRIFICE TO FIND A TRUE LOVE REFLECTED IN
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AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCOLOGICAL APPROACH

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ABSTRACT

This is an analysis of Sophie sacrifice to find a true love reflected in Letters to Juliet movie which is conducted by using an individual psychological approach. The object study is Letters to Juliet movie that the screen play is by Gary Winick. The outcome of the study is shown in the following conclusions. First, there is a relationship between Letters to Juliet and an individual psychology, particularly in human striving for superiority and the creativity of human to support their strives. Another key theme in the series is that sacrifice of Sophie to find a true love to fulfill the fictional finalism by striving for superiority. Letters to Juliet is a movie where the story tells about the existence of Juliet Capulet. Second Letters to Juliet is analyzed by using individual psychological approach where there are six elements as the point. The six elements consist of striving for superiority, inferiority feeling, fictional finalism, style of life, creative self and social interest. Sophie, the major character tries to become an honest woman to get her future better because her finalism is that, on her entire life, Sophie needs love. Her dream is to get someone she loves who cares on her and knows her better rather than knowing about himself. To get her fictional finalism, Sophia must face the obstacle of life.

1. Introduction

The Letters to Juliet movie tells about someone who looks for true love in her life. The movie is starring Sophie as an American woman. She is a worker at a publishing house and she has been tasked to look for interesting news and she spends her holiday to Italy with his boyfriend named Victor. After arriving in Italy, Sophie starts by walking the street and she finally gets a place which attracts her attention when many young women who are writing the letter, the letter is actually addressed to Juliet Capulet (character in the story of *Romeo and Juliet*). They are requesting advice about their love affair.

Sophie finds a letter that there are decades-old stone hidden in the contents of a woman who was confused because her parents forbade dating a man she likes. And she is sent by her parents to go to America to continue his education there. From there, Sophie is interested to reply the letter. After a few days, there is a young man who comes to the Juliet's office. Juliet Capulet writes back asking for fifty years ago on his grandmother. Sophie finally meets the woman who wrote the letter and said that she wants to find her boyfriend and asks for help in Sophie. Sophie is challenged with her invitation.

2. Research Method

The research method of this research paper is broken down into five aspects: (1) Type of Research, (2) Subject of the Study, (3) Type of data and Data Source, (4) Technique of the Data Collection and (5) Method of the Data Analysis.

1. Type of the Study

The method used in this research is qualitative study which takes the source data from words and other written text. Qualitative study is concerned with providing description of phenomena that occur naturally. This study attempted to present the data from perspective of the observed subject.

2. Object of the Study

The object of this study is *Letters to Juliet* movie. This movie is directed by Gary winick and written by Jose Rivera and Jim Sullivan.

3. Type of the Data and the Data Source

Type of the data is in the form of script movie entitled *Letters to Juliet* directed by Gary Winick. The writer divides the data source into two categories: primary data and Secondary Data Source.

a. Primary Data Source

The primary data source of the study is *Letters to Juliet* movie that is directed by Gary Winick and written by Jose Rivera and Jim Sullivan.

b. Secondary Data Source

The writer takes the secondary data source, including reference and materials related to the study whether picking up from books or internet. The script movie is downloaded in <http://www.simplyscript.com> and is added by the writer to reach the completeness.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The technique of collecting data is library research. The data from both primary and secondary sources are collected and recorded in a short of document as evidence. The techniques of collecting data are as follows:

- a. Watching the movie several times and determining the character that will be analyzed.
- b. Reading some related books to find out the theory data and information required.
- c. Accessing to the internet to get several information and articles related to the object of the study.
- d. Taking notes of important parts in both primary data and secondary data.
- e. Arranging the data into several parts according to its self classification.
- f. Selecting particular parts that are considered important and relevant for the analysis.
- g. Drawing conclusion based on the data analysis.

3. Fiction Finalism

Adler's concept of fictional finalism is the idea of human behavior is directed toward a future goal of its own making. Adler (in Hjelle & Ziegler, 1992: 153) theorized that our ultimate goals (those goals which give our life direction and purpose) are fictional goals that can neither be tested nor confirmed against reality.

On her entire life, Sophie needs love. The first time she falls in love, she found a man (Victor) that loves her in a different ways. He shows his love by showing his capability as a chef

and all of in the world that is related with cooking and restaurant. Even though, Victor is a good man, but he can not give her the care and the romantic situation in falling in love.

Her dream is to get someone that she loves who cares of her and knows her better than himself. It can be seen on the dialogue and picture below.



Figure 52. Sophie's Dream to get Her Fiancé

Victor: You know, he's inviting us
to this incredible forest,
that's just, like, 120 kilometers away.
And they dig these exquisite truffles...

Sophie: Wait. 120 kilometers?

Victor: Yeah, it's not like miles, Sophie.

Sophie: No, I understand the difference, but I just...
I just don't understand why you wanna go
120 kilometers to see a mushroom.

Victor: It's not a mushroom, okay?
It's a truffle. It's a tartufo. It's the thing
that you put on top of pasta, you know?
A tartufo?
It's something else. It's...
Come on,
you've been having a good day, right?

Sophie: It was fine.
But now, I just...
To be honest, I don't really feel like going
to see a mushroom.

Victor: Okay, fine, I get it. I get it. It's fine. I get
it.
I mean, just don't call it a mushroom, okay?

Sophie: Yeah, okay.
You know what?
Why don't you go see the truffle place

Victor: and I'll go do my thing and sightsee?
Really?
Yeah. Win-win.

The conversation above tells that Sophie is very disappointed with Victor, where he can do anything for his own hobby, while for her, he just acts passively.

4. Inferiority Feeling

Inferiority is the minor feelings or negative feelings within human and it often appears in every human being life. This feeling can be largely constructive to human, it will change human emotionally. Human being has a feeling of inferiors at some point of their life, and they attempt to compensate for their presence of this feeling. The inferiority on *Sophie* movie can be seen below.

Sophie feels anxious when she knows that her fiancé only loves with his hobby and his dreams as a chef of a restaurant. Sophie only wants to get her own vacation with someone she loves and spare the whole time with him. This makes her know that her fiancé no longer spends his attention with her



Figure 44. The Debate

Sophie: Hey, Sophie.
 Victor: Hey, Sophie. How're you doing?
 Sophie: Everything all right?
 Lorenzo and Claire are getting married.
 Victor: Really? Wow.
 - When?
 - On Saturday.
 Sophie: Saturday? This Saturday? Yeah?
 Yeah. I'm gonna go.
 Alone.
 Victor: Alone?

- Wait. No, no, no. Sophie, wait...
 - No, no, no. Just...
 Let me get this out. Please?
 Sophie: I really don't know what this is anymore.
 I don't know what we're doing.
 I mean, we went on vacation
 and we didn't spend any time together.
 Victor: Yeah, because you were busy writing.
 - I didn't mind.
 Sophie: Yeah, but...
 Victor: I didn't mind.
 Sophie: I know you didn't mind.
 - And you were busy.
 Victor: Come on...
 Sophie: You went to Livorno and I didn't mind.
 Victor: No, no, no, Sophie! No, no, no...
 Sophie: No... Which is what I'm saying.
 Victor, we went on, like, a honeymoon
 and we didn't mind
 being apart from each other.
 It's not supposed to be that way.
 We're supposed to want to be
 with each other all the time.
 Victor: Well, I wish I could tell you
 that things are gonna be different
 and that I'm gonna be different,
 but I...
 - This is who I am.
 - I know, but I love...
 Sophie: I love who you are.
 But I've changed.
 It's not working.
 I have to go, Victor.

The dialogue above tells about the disappointment of Sophie after she knows that her love no longer thinks about her needs anymore. The small debate happens on both of them, the debate can change everything related with their relationship. Sophie's anxiety appears when she finds someone that understands her so much. This makes her change her mind about her love to Victor.

5. Striving for Superiority

Striving for superiority is something that everyone does in order to move ahead, from a condition of getting over inferiority. The striving for superiority is a natural way of being to get a better life. The striving of Sophie can be seen below:

After Sophie realizes that she does not have the same idea anymore with her fiancé, then she makes a decision to tell about what she tells. She tries to become an honest woman to get her future better. She calls her fiancé by phone, she tries to tell the truth that she cannot stay with

him anymore. She tells that she needs happiness from the man who can give the entire love for her.



Figure 46. Sophie Tries to Talk to Victor

Sophie: but, I mean, I'm glad you called because
I was actually just gonna call you right now.
Victor: You know, the opportunities here are really,
really, really incredible, you know,
Sophie: and I think
I'm gonna have to stay till Friday.
Victor: Can I stay or should I skip it?
I mean, I feel horrible, but...
Sophie: No, do it. Please.
I'm gonna need until Friday, as well.
Victor: Great. So Friday, all right? Friday.
Friday's good. Okay. Win-win

The dialogue above is the conversation that discusses about the striving of Sophie to get her good life in the future in love and family. She calls her fiancé and tells the truth about what she really wants in her life.

6. Style of Life

The style of life of Sophie belongs to social useful type, where her life is useful for everybody besides her. Sophie is a good woman where she loves to help people, especially her closes friend. Sophie is a simple woman where on every activity she never shows about what the good of her is. That is why, Sophia becomes an honest women. Honest is one of her good attitude and it can be seen on the conversation between Sophie and Victor. One day, Sophie goes to someplace and she does not want to cover it from her fiancé. She tells everything on that day activity.



Figure 53. Sophie Has a Close Relationship with Victor

Victor: Congratulations.
 Sophie: What? Yeah. What?
 I mean, how was Verona?
 How was it without me?
 Victor: Empty? Half-empty? Completely empty?
 Sophie: Half-empty.
 Sophie: I met the Secretaries of Juliet.
 Victor: Juliet?
 Like Juliet Capulet?
 Sophie: Yeah
 There are these women that call themselves
 the Secretaries of Juliet,
 and they write letters to people
 that write letters to Juliet.
 And then these secretaries,
 they work for the city of Verona,

The conversation happens in the Victor bed room. Here, Sophie tells everything about what she does on the way she walks to Victor house.

7. Social Interest

Social interest is in born; that man is social creature by nature, and not only by habit. Humans must consider relationship to others and to the socio-cultural context in life in understanding their selves. Social interest is a barometer of psychological health or abnormality. The sentence below is the social interest of Sophia in *Letters to Juliet* movie.

Sophie is a good woman because she is friendly. It can be seen when the first time she meets with all Juliet secretaries, she wants to know about all of them. She asks everything that she wants to know, she also gives her lovely and friendly smile on every conversation. It makes them think that Sophie is a good woman that can be their friend.



Figure 50. Friendly Conversation with Sophie's New Friend

Sophie: You're all Juliet?

Isabella: Her secretaries.

Donatella has been married 51 years
to the same man.

She handles husband problems.

Husbands are like wine.

They take a long time to mature.

Francesca is a nurse.

She deals with illness and loss.

And Maria...

Why do you always sigh
when you say my name?

She has 12 children, 29 grandchildren,
and 16 great-grandchildren.

She writes whatever she likes.

Sophie: And you?

Isabella: answers the ones

you can barely read.

Yeah, the lovers' quarrels,
the breakups, the really tangled hearts

8. Creative Self (Power)

Creative power means the influences of heredity of any environment toward a person in overcoming the problem of life. Each person is empowered with the freedom to create his or

her own life style. The concept of creative self implies that some one creates his own personality, that he actively constructs it out of his experience and heredities.

The creativity of Sophie appears after she is separated with her fiancé. Here, she feels lonely because there is no one can give her love and attention. On this situation, she wants to do something useful, then she meets with Claire the nanny who wants to find her friend from 50 years ago.

On this situation, Sophie does not tell Claire that she wants to help her, but she tells that she wants to make a story while she is no longer with her fiancé. Sophie tells everything about Victor, about what happened between them. The creativity of Sophie shows that, she still can do many kinds of activities even without Victor.



Figure 55. Sophie makes a Good Conversation with Her Friends

Isabella: You are a writer?
 Sophie: Yeah, I am. I am a writer.
 Isabella: Come. I show you.
 They come from all over the world
 every day.
 Sophie: But taking their letters?
 Is that not like taking pennies
 from a wishing well?
 Isabella: How else can we give them answers?
 Sophie: Oh, my God. So, you write all of them back.

 Isabella: Yes.
 Sophie: You're all Juliet?
 Isabella: Her secretaries.

9. Sacrifice Analysis

The sacrifice of Sophia appears on every striving of her to handle her inferiority. Sophia's dream is to get someone she loves who cares on her and knows her better rather than knows about himself. To get her eternal loves, she dares to cut her relationship with her fiancé. She also

dares to make decision to follows Claire wherever she goes. In that situation, Sophia lefts everything especially her past life with Victor.

The next sacrifice of Sophia also appears when she makes decision to break up with victor. The sacrifice of Sophia is in a form of heart pain where she must lefts her old love; she must live without Victor and all of the beautiful memory with him. But she knows that to get a better life, she has to do that kind of sacrifice.

10. Conclusion

Based on the analysis the writer has done, it can be drawn some conclusions as follow: Firstly, there is a relationship between *Letters to Juliet* and an individual psychology, particularly in human striving for superiority and the creativity of human to support their strives. *Letters to Juliet* is a movie where the story tells about the existence of Juliet Capulet. The climax on action appears from both couple with a different ways of purposes. Sophie and Victor are passionate young people, but they still don't know each other. The result is on the narrative element of the movie that consists of the character and characterization of the actor, the plot, theme, point of view and also cinematography.

The film *Letters to Juliet* is analyzed by using individual psychological approach where there are six elements as the point. The six elements consist of striving for superiority, inferiority feeling, fictional finalism, style of life, creative self and social interest. Sophie, the major character tries to become an honest woman to get her future better because her finalism is, on her entire life, Sophie needs love. Her dream is to get someone she loves who cares on her and knows her better rather than knowing about himself. To get her fictional finalism, Sophia must face the obstacle of life. The obstacle that creates her inferiority is that Sophie feels anxious when she knows that her fiancé only loves with his hobby and his dreams as a chef of a restaurant. The creative of Sophia helps her to run her life. On this situation, she wants to do something useful. Her style of life supports her social life everyday. Sophie is a simple woman where on every activity she never shows about what the good of her is. That is why, Sophia becomes an honest women.

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